



# MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE

TENNESSEE FIRE SERVICE AND CODES ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **TENNESSEE'S FINEST HEADING NORTH FOR WEEKEND OF TRAINING**

### **Firefighters attend 15<sup>th</sup> annual training weekend at national training academy**

BELL BUCKLE, TN - More than 200 of Tennessee's finest firefighters will be traveling to Emmitsburg Maryland to attend a weekend of firefighter training.

The Tennessee Weekend at the National Fire Academy, scheduled for November 19-21, is held at the national fire fighter training campus in Emmitsburg and is co-sponsored by the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy located in northern Bedford County.

This annual training event is in its 15<sup>th</sup> year and is offered to all firefighters across the state.

The firefighters participate in a variety of educational training classes. Courses cover juvenile fire-setter intervention, emergency response to terrorism, incident command for catastrophes, and other specialized topics. These courses allow firefighters to gain knowledge for situations they may face in their daily working environment.

Almost 70% of Tennessee's firefighters are volunteers who must work their daily jobs during the week. Holding these training events on a weekend allows more volunteer firefighters to receive training that they need but otherwise would not be able to obtain. These participants are then able to take their new knowledge and experience back to their co-workers in their local departments.

"The Academy is proud to be a part of this unique educational training event," said Roger Hawks, Executive Director for the Fire and Codes Academy. "This kind of specialized training prepares our firefighters to prevent fires and protect our citizens."

The National Fire Academy offers these courses to students at minimal cost. Students are responsible for course fees, transportation, and room and board. Many departments pay for the training, while others hold fundraisers to cover the fees associated with firefighter training.

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The training weekend will be held in Emmitsburg, Maryland November 19-21, 2004.

The Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy is located on 330 acres 15 miles south of Murfreesboro. The campus offers the latest in training technology, state-of-the-art equipment and a full spectrum of courses to emergency service first responders and to codes enforcement personnel.

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